

TOC H JOURNAL

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1950

THE INCENTIVE of a new start is always stimulating. We can even welcome the staggering of the year by the Chief Accountant, the Church and the Calendar—each authority obliging us with an annual stimulus at suitable intervals. Some may respond to them all; but for most of us January 1 has a newness which outshines November 1 or even November 27. And when the New Year half achieves round figures it seems to shine with a special lustre, offering a glimpse into a new millenium.

Those who saw the great nineteenth century pass into the twentieth must make the most of 1950. But if they can hardly hope to see the full rotundity of 2000 A.D., they may still help to shape things to come. At the turning point of the century we look back on a period as significant as any fifty years in History, fuller than any perhaps of tragedy and suffering, of cruelty and destruction. But we can also see the wild flowers growing on the bombed site, we can hear the bird singing in the rain.

If the road so far has been uphill and still seems to lead us through the wood, the main characteristics of the century have yet to be determined: machines, ideologies and even atomic bombs may look quite unimportant after fifty years. The prevailing four D's—Distraction, Depression, Devaluation, Disillusionment—*can* add up to 2000. But not where Toc H is true to its task. Born in a negative world of devastation and despair it has always put its faith in the simple positives of Friendship, of Tolerance, of the Liberty of Service. As an instrument designed by its Maker to work in a given historical situation, it faces the complexity of man in the mass with the significance of Dick, Harry, and Tom. Our task is not new, but to provide a motto for the year let us name it—to Make Life Meaningful.

MLM



The Gateway of India, Bombay

Indian Prospect—1

ALEC CHURCHER has recently returned from a ten-months' visit to *Toc H* in India, Pakistan and Ceylon. He went at the invitation of the All-India Committee, and at their expense, with a free hand "to assess the position of *Toc H* today . . . and to report to the Central Executive how far, and in what manner, he considered it could make an effective contribution to the tremendous problems which face the Indian people and the Christian Church, especially in South India". We are glad to print here the first instalment of his impressions.

IT WAS AFTER DARK when the ss. *Statheden* finally I sidled alongside Ballards Quay, Bombay. My first sight of India had been through binoculars earlier in the afternoon as the ship lay far out in the harbour in the burning sunshine, waiting for a vacant berth at the quayside. An imposing row of tall, white, modern-looking buildings shimmered in the heat along the whole length of the water-front, and at the far end, beyond the domes and minarets of the modern Taj Mahal Hotel, the famous Gateway of India, outmarbling Marble Arch, was just discernible. As the ship moved silently to her

berth it was as though a film director was moving his cameras through the opening sequences of a new story, first catching and holding the atmosphere and character of the background, then moving in, through a dozen changing angles and perspectives, to a close-up of the scene into which his characters can make their entrance. I felt like an actor awaiting his cue in the wings.

The sounds of India began to make themselves heard, first as a single high-pitched murmur, then—even before my eyes could make out the detail of the panorama on the quay—as the strident babel of thousands of voices. Hundreds of little fires burned along the railway platform which stretched the length of the quay, and round each, beside pathetic little piles of household belongings, groups of shadowy figures were huddled in the half-light—homeless refugees from Pakistan, allowed to live and sleep on the quay because they had nowhere else to go. As the ship was made fast, there was a surging towards the railings which separated the railway line from the wharf, and hundreds of begging hands were stretched upwards with a kind of eager, hopeless fluttering, which I was to see so constantly during my months in India and which I never failed to find moving. The ship was ablaze with light from stern to stern, an alien world of ease and comfort, tied up alongside this vast shadowy other world of poverty and suffering and squalor with which, in spite of close proximity, it has never had any real contact at all. Perhaps it never can.

During the next few days in Bombay this feeling of being somehow insulated from the teeming world around became stronger and stronger. First I thought it was due to my own initial strangeness but soon it seemed that the whole European community lay like a tiny patch of oil on the surface of a great turbulent lake. I began to imagine more vividly some of the difficulties which must confront Toc H here.

The first two overwhelming impressions that most obsess the mind of the newcomer to India are its crowdedness and its poverty. I had, of course, read books which gave the statistics about these things, but a walk through Asia's most overpopulated square mile, near the Metro Cinema in the heart of Bombay, where a quarter of a million people exist in conditions

of unbelievable squalor, brought this home to the heart as well as the head. Bombay is a city of contrasts. Fine-looking modern flats and office-buildings stand side by side with sordid tenements; there are fine shops, their windows filled with all sorts of expensive luxuries, towering above the squalid and colourful bazaars; huge cars, both American and British, jostled with bullock-carts in the crowded streets or brake suddenly to allow safe passage to a mild-eyed sacred cow. The European colony is still large but most of these cars seemed to be owned by wealthy Indians. Everywhere beggars, some with horrible deformities, throng the gutters and sidewalks, their thin hands raised in supplication. One somehow gets the impression that every clean and spacious building, every square yard of ordered park or garden, has to be continually defended lest the great primitive tide of poverty and squalor comes seeping through to overwhelm them.

The population problem is, I suppose, the fundamental one for India, for in spite of a tragically high infant-mortality rate and the lowest 'expectation-of-life' figure in the world, and in spite of the toll of tuberculosis which kills one Indian every minute, her population is increasing by one-and-a-half to two millions a year, while probably something like 80 per cent. of her present people are undernourished.

But it was not long before I began to feel that even more shocking than the facts of poverty and disease was the apparent acceptance of these things by almost every section of the community as being natural and inevitable. This indifference to the sufferings of others is insidiously infectious and after only a few months in India I found myself already beginning to be able to view with comparative complacency sights which had once made me feel almost physically ill. I began to wonder what a handful of Toc H men could hope to achieve against such a background and how they could begin to let it be seen that, for the Christian, "Thy will be done" is a challenge to social action, and very different from the passive fatalism of the East.

Early Contacts

Toc H in Bombay made me very welcome. I found that the Indian membership was already larger than the British and

that there was also a fairly large Anglo-Indian unit. It was good to find all these three ingredients in the Toc H pudding. Within a few days of my arrival I found myself with half-a-dozen other members, helping to entertain a party of wounded Indian soldiers, mostly casualties from the Hyderabad and Kashmir campaigns, at Green's Hotel. Among the Toc H party was a British colonel, until a few weeks previously chief-of-staff to the Hyderabad State Forces, and his presence as 'host' to these soldiers of the opposing force seemed to show that the true Christian spirit was at work through Toc H.

On this job I had my first experience of the language problem. The men came from all over India and several quite different Indian languages were being spoken. Few of them spoke any English except a few simple numbers and military commands, but almost equally few could understand one another. The term 'Indian', it needs to be remembered, should really be used in much the same way as we use the term 'European' at this end of the world, for there is almost as much difference between a man from Mysore and a Punjabi from the north-west as between a Spaniard and a Norwegian, and there are eight quite different languages with completely different scripts in common use.

Warm Welcome

I revisited Bombay several times during my months in India but shall never forget the exciting quality of my first few days there. Some of these early pictures remain more deeply printed on my mind than many later and more colourful impressions elsewhere; in particular I shall long remember an early morning drive along the sea-front to Breach Candy when the colour-scheme had all gone wrong and, instead of the vivid primary colours I had always associated with the East, a dove-grey mist hung over the sea and a sudden delicate tracery of minaret and dome appeared etched against this pastel background like a soft pencil drawing by Arthur Rackham. I remember a night of dark velvet on Malabar Hill, stars spangling the sky and ten thousand lights spangling the hill-sides and harbour below. Most vividly of all I remember the warmth and genuineness of my welcome into the homes and

families of my brother Toc H members, Indian, Anglo-Indian and British, and the new friends made daily, and the growing confusion of my mind as a dozen unsuspected new factors became apparent in every problem. Very few of my preconceived ideas about India survived that first week; most were finally buried not far from the Gateway.

Language Difficulties

Within a week of my arrival I paid a visit to Poona, just over a hundred miles away. I do not know quite what I expected to find at this historic spot, fabled stamping-ground of British colonels and their *mem-sahibs*, but pouring rain prevented me from seeing much of anything. I stayed with the Indian Y.M.C.A. secretary, once of Toc H Delhi, driving with him in the evening, and still in the rain, to Kirkee to visit the Toc H branch there. This branch, which is 100 per cent Indian, is almost entirely composed of workers in the Government Ammunition Factory there. Here I initiated four new members and we had a happy evening. I found that almost all these men came from South India and were Tamil-speaking, and this fact led to my discovering a new complication affecting the development of an Indian Toc H outside south India. This is the fact that for historical reasons Christianity is far stronger in the south of India than anywhere else. Outside South India it is exceptional to find indigenous, educated, English-speaking Indians who are Christians and this means that the leadership of the Indian Christian community tends to be in the hands of men from the south whose work has brought them northwards. It is from among such men that at present Toc H almost inevitably draws its Indian membership. Such men are usually unable to speak the local language and are therefore nearly as helpless in making real contact with the people whom they most desire to serve as are the British. (I found this to be true of the Indian membership in Bombay and almost everywhere else outside south India.)

That evening in Poona my Indian host had invited the one remaining British officer to come in for dinner to meet me. What more poignant reminder could there be of the departed

glories of the British Raj than that here in Poona a solitary British captain should bicycle in the rain through acres of echoing cantonments, past derelict Officers' Messes and Gymkhana Clubs, to take a teetotal and vegetarian meal with the only other Britisher within range!

Early next morning I set off by *tonga* for the station and entrained on the *Deccan Queen* for Bombay. But a cyclone had hit Bombay the previous evening with the result that the line was blocked by landslides, fallen trees and floods, and the "Queen", after struggling about half the way with frequent halts, finally abdicated at a place called Kalyan, once the site of a Toc H Services Club. Here we spent a not-to-be-forgotten night. The restaurant car was provisioned for breakfast only and by mid-day food supplies had run out. By late afternoon there was no more water and the lights finally expired about 8 p.m. I was the only Englishman on the train but two charming Indians took compassion on me, both of whom turned out to be Oxford graduates, and we passed the night in conversation. One proved to be the Director of Posts and Telegraphs in Madras, and the other an Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Defence in Delhi. Both were very curious about Toc H and expressed approval of its aims, but as one was a Roman Catholic and the other a Hindu, it is unlikely that this will go much further. I learnt much from them about the new India, and their hopes and plans for its future. Their optimism was perhaps a needed counterbalance to the pessimism I had felt after my first few days in the country, yet while I saw clearly enough that my own appraisal of things was certainly superficial I could not feel that they were very realistic in their approach. In the East the dream and the reality seem somehow to get identified in people's minds, and I was to find many instances of this, some even within Toc H.

A little after dawn a light engine arrived from somewhere, and this fussing along ahead to see that all was clear the train began to crawl along again, finally reaching Bombay about noon, having taken twenty-nine hours to do a journey normally lasting a little over three.

A.C.G.

Jobmastery

IN THE discharge of their duty of 'managing the affairs of the Corporation' and of keeping in close touch with the 'state and condition of the Association and the progress of its work', the Central Executive, after transacting ordinary business and many reports, frequently make time to exercise their minds on matters of policy and subjects relating to the movement as a whole. When the subject of Jobmastery came up for discussion it was soon found to involve the fundamental problem of the significance in the life of Toc H today of the Second Point of the Compass. The subject was therefore passed to a digestive team to get their teeth into; after three meetings and an interim report to the Central Executive week-end Conference the following notes were evolved :

Fundamentals

1. The Second Point of the Compass reminds members that they are called upon 'to give personal service, to study local conditions and their effects on men's lives, and to challenge their generation to seek the will of Christ in the solution of all problems'.
2. Toc H, being concerned with the personal relations of man to man, believes in the friendly operation of men's influence on each other rather than in the neat plans of experts or in direction from Headquarters or even from Branch officers.
3. One test of the health of a Branch is its effectiveness in action. Where the life of a Branch tends to flag the cause may perhaps be a lack of vision about service, or perhaps even in an absence of the will to serve. Revival will depend largely on a new vision of the opportunities for service.
4. There is, therefore, a need at the present time for more imaginative jobmastery and also for a new emphasis on service as an obligation falling on every member.

New Factors

1. While the problem is as old as Toc H (and older), certain new factors emerge, especially (i) changes in Toc H (type, numerical strength and age of members) and (ii) changes in society due largely to the coming of the Welfare State.

2. The idea of voluntary social service is perhaps the most important characteristic of British Democracy; its roots are deep in our history, in the jury system, the 'great unpaid', the cultivation of common lands, in the early days of Trade Unions, in local preachers, in mutual improvement societies, etc. Voluntary social service in Britain developed in and as the result of a two-decker society: its motive was charity practised towards the unprivileged many by the privileged few. Poverty was reckoned in material needs. Now that the State is not only supplying the material needs, such as food, clothing and shelter, but also taking care of health, education, Youth Service, etc., there will grow up a new conception of poverty, a poverty of the Spirit, a sense of frustration, a lack of creative occupation, a feeling of insignificance, a loss of the sense of risk, adventure and individual enterprise. From the methods of the Welfare State there may well emerge a selfishness and materialistic outlook based on the idea of safety first.

3. It may therefore be the main task of voluntary service to find means of bringing significance and creativeness into men's lives, to work for the enrichment of family and social life through the better use of leisure and to counteract the effects of a planned society on the life of the individual.

4. The statutory and the voluntary services will always interact on each other and can seldom be entirely separated. (e.g. Though Education is the care of the State, the individual character of a good school will depend largely on the willingness of men and women of imagination to serve on its Governing Body.)

5. While all this may in time give a new direction to the method of service, many of the old needs still remain. The Beveridge Report on *Voluntary Action* stresses that there is no longer a small section of the community with ample means and abundant leisure and that the task ahead is to spread the

load by awakening a desire for service among the mass of people and to draw attention especially, among the needs that remain, to Old People's Welfare, the needs of Youth and Childhood, of parents and the physically handicapped. These and many other needs can never be fully met by the State.

The Place of the Jobmaster

1. Jobmastery should be regarded as a particular task in the wide field of social service. "In its modern context it has little to do with letting out horses. It means being master of the job and capable of providing a nucleus round which others outside Toc H can be gathered to serve."

2. The task of the Jobmaster is to stimulate the desire for service and to help men to find practicable means of expressing that desire in the light of the needs of the locality. It is the art and science of leadership in Toc H. The Jobmaster's task is 'to enthuse and use'.

3. To be effective the Jobmaster should have imagination and enthusiasm, tempered by a sense of proportion. He should acquire a knowledge of his men and if possible a knowledge of social conditions and the work of welfare organisations.

4. In order to know the needs of his locality and to make them known he should encourage the spread of knowledge of social conditions by (a) talks by speakers with a practical knowledge of statutory or voluntary service, of social and industrial problems which concern personal relationships, (b) the organisation of discovery teams to survey the social needs of the neighbourhood, and (c) encouraging men to train for the job when necessary.

5. Training is of two kinds, (i) in the basic principles of Toc H; these are rightly made the subjects of Training Days, Week-ends or Conferences; (ii) in the technique of the job which is the task of the specialised organisations. Here the Jobmaster's task is to see that facilities for training are made known.

6. The need for this special training is of increasing importance through the growing complexity of social services. As more of the field of social service is covered by the statutory

services, the amateur tends to be discounted by the Public Authority, but the scope for the amateur, especially if trained, remains almost unlimited. (The effectiveness of the trained amateur was shown by the Civil Defence Service in war time.)

7. While primarily concerned with voluntary spare-time work, often of what may seem a palliative character, a Jobmaster must also keep his eyes on the wider field. A man's desire to serve may well often find its fulfilment in terms of work on Local or National Government: he may even appear to be lost to Toc H but he should be regarded as well lost to Branch life and still be kept within the Family.

For Discussion

When, on October 5, the Central Executive considered the report of their digestive team they decided that it should be submitted to the membership through the JOURNAL, not as in any way a conclusive statement on a big subject but because they felt it might set ideas going in the minds of Jobmasters and others. A few questions may assist the process of fertilisation:

1. How far is it true to suggest that a new vision of jobmastery is needed? Is your Branch as responsive as it used to be (ought to be) to the challenge of service?

2. Has the development of the Welfare State led to a general slackening of the will to volunteer?

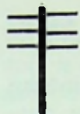
3. Is there a danger of a Branch becoming obsessed with the claims of service or dominated by the Jobmaster? Is the health of a Branch dependent on the proper balance between faith and works?

4. Toc H is not a social service society; Or is it? What would a Branch look like if it were?

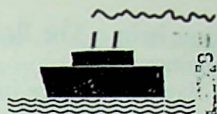
5. Is there too much stress on the complexity of social service, the relation between statutory and voluntary services, the need for training and all that? Can't we just find the job and get on with it? Or does it depend on the job?

If any of these questions should provoke answers or even other questions, please use the *Open Hustings*. The Central Executive may quite possibly be glad to benefit by your thinking even if you do not want theirs.





Far Cry



UPON THAT ROCK

SOMEWHERE towards the end of these notes is a reference to the Lamp which was officially received by the Gibraltar Branch at a simple service on November 2. It is given by the family of Padre Gerry Chambers, whose death during the war at the Changi P.O.W. Camp in Singapore has already been recorded in the JOURNAL. Toc H in Gibraltar now begins a fresh phase of its life, and all those who served there during the war will wish it well.

What is the purpose of Toc H in such places as Gibraltar, where most people are in the Services and where it is so difficult—and important—to embed the roots firmly among the 'permanent residents'. Jobs in the accepted sense are bound to be limited but the general need of "hospitality" is, as it were, a standing order. When the three ships of the Indian Navy recently called there a number of lads who had greatly relished the hospitality of Toc H in Portsmouth met a similar welcome there, and their welcome was equally certain in Malta, to whom Gibraltar had commended them.

If a permanent Headquarters could be found in that congested spot it would help enormously. It might also be a great blessing, if leave is still a problem, to have some form of camp where impecunious young service men, for lack of funds confined to the town for their leave, might yet get a reasonable change of air and comfort. Holidays at home are all very well up to a point, but the point is raised appreciably higher if the holiday can be spent at a friend's house—with the friend doing the chores. In the meantime Gibraltar is settling down, small in number but in a determined frame of mind, to make Toc H something of real value on the Rock.

ACROSS THE CAUSEWAY

With the departure of Gordon Lawes from Malaya, Talbot House in Singapore, as in Hong Kong, is left without full-

time help. The Branch itself is assuming responsibility for its maintenance.

People who are intimately concerned with the daily running of such a house sometimes wonder if they are getting anywhere. May a Naval Chaplain be allowed to give his opinion, quoted from a letter:—

"Strangely enough, I had only this morning written to the Administrator and to a member, Chas. Brownjohn of Guildford mentioned to me by the Chaplain of the Fleet. I was moved to this unusual literary activity by my unbounded admiration for the Houses in Hong Kong and Singapore. They provide a great welcome, warm but not embarrassingly hearty, and I find them, as I found Toc H in Sierra Leone, the most Christian and worthwhile outside interest to which to introduce men. Our Seamen boys have been most generously entertained by the Singapore house, and those older men whom I have been able to take along have seen the Family really in action."

Of course members do other things too; *e.g.*, visiting the gaol, the hospital, the Lepers. An incautious article in the local paper, appealing for old toys to renovate for Christmas, produced an absolute deluge.

Hundreds of thankful mothers must have raided their offsprings' toy cupboards and thrown out as many relics and treasures as the children could be pressed to give cheerfully to a good cause.

This mass of anguished generosity produced five lorry-loads of presentable toys for the Singapore Children's Aid Society, the Orthopaedic Hospital, the General Hospital and the Salvation Army.

TRANSPORTS OF DELIGHT

The driver of the Porlock bus does a lot of useful things besides driving his bus. For instance, he has to make sure that the small children in the seat immediately behind him are dropped, right way up, by the stile at Newbridge. And there is a shopping basket overflowing with Kellog's Cornflakes to be left at a gate in the hedge hard by Allerford, with a loud shout at the cottage up the path "just to let 'em know that 'tis

yer like". The countryside has its own way of doing things, and it is usually a personal and friendly way, the envy of us town-dwellers.

Yet we also have our moments, here at Francis Street, and they come in this way. The week began with a minor crisis; Johannesburg had run right out of button-hole badges. "We're expecting Alan Paton back by air from England, can he bring sixty with him?"

But Alan was going first to America, that very afternoon, and could only cope with sixty button-hole badges by wearing them as personal effects—which seemed a little decorative even for an Hon. Commissioner of Toc H. Almost simultaneously came a second message, "Lofty Evans will call for them"—"Lofty", the indefatigable dining-saloon steward who has been an unofficial courier on the South African run for years. But Intelligence had slipped up, for three days passed and "Lofty" never came. Instead there arrived one Goodwin and his young wife, fresh from their native Bonnybridge in Scotland. They were flying the following day to Johannesburg to a new job. As Fergie plied them with what was left of the morning coffee a light came into her eyes reminiscent of the maiden ladies in *Arsenic and Old Lace* as they discovered another lonely victim. "Could they—would they—could they possibly—" Quite. That was the day before yesterday. Tomorrow they will press the packet firmly into the waiting hands of Ronald Anderson at South African Headquarters, and Scotland will be blessed from the Cape to the Congo Border.

Just previously the banner of the famous Changi P.O.W. Branch, brought to London for the 1948 Birthday Festival, was required to be taken to Australia before returning to Singapore where it belonged.

It had arrived by air, packed flat, having been given a lift from Singapore by Peter Driver. But Peter was in the R.A.F. and could carry a thing off with an air denied to the common *terra firma*-lubber. This time it was Padre Bligh of Melbourne who came to the rescue, for he was returning as Chaplain of an emigrant ship; so the Malaysian Banner, in a stout case, accompanied him in the "Cameronia".

Within a few hours, or so it seemed, their newly granted Lamp was wanted quickly by Toc H in Gibraltar. But how? Mrs. Evans, whose husband is Chairman of the Branch, happened to be flying almost straight from Ealing to Gibraltar that very week, and with her willing co-operation that was that.

The Hong Kong Lamp was rather more difficult to get under way, and we appealed to George Potter in Portsmouth. He seemed doubtful but said he would try to lay on a fast destroyer for us. Actually we suspected him of humour, and after deliberation the suggestion was not followed up. Then a young soldier, Ron Greenwood, arrived at "47" unexpectedly, on draft for Hong Kong and expecting to leave any day. So the Lamp of Hong Kong set out on its way from London to the Far East at the bottom of a work-a-day kit bag. For some reason there came to mind Henry V's reply to the Constable of France, "Let me speak proudly; we are but warriors for a working day; our gayness and our guilt...", and so on. It seemed rather fitting.

And now, for the moment, all needs are met. But next week, who knows who will be taking what to where, and how? Which only goes to show that the real motive spirit you sense in the Porlock bus is not petrol; it is a nameless something which also motivates the Toc H carrier's van, and sends it on its personal missions across the world and back again.

G.M.

World Chain of Light

At 9 p.m. (local time) on Sunday, December 11, 1949, the World Chain of Light was started at Colombo, Ceylon, and travelled *via* Asia, Africa, Europe and America. On the following day further links were continued *via* New Zealand, Australia, the Far East and thence back to Colombo.

The following cable dated December 11, 9.15 p.m. was received at Toc H Headquarters:

LAMP ALIGHT

MAINTAINING VIGIL

GOOD WISHES ALL

COLOMBO.

Areas Surveyed

1—The Western Area

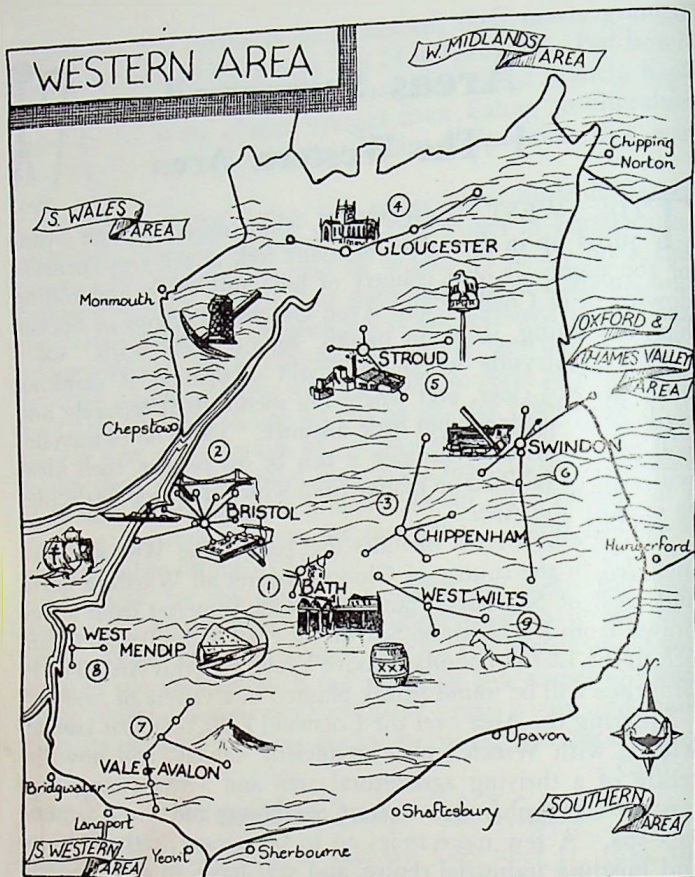


THE WEST COUNTRY—the misconception conjured up in the minds of many folk at the very mention of the name—is of a country of hills and vales, and rolling downs, or of Cheddar and Avon Gorges. Perhaps of bucolic figures leaning, straw in mouth, against stone walls. Of a sleepy countryside where the main occupation is drinking home-brewed cider, and where life spends itself leisurely and civilisation has made but little advance. The Toc H traveller will receive an early surprise if this be his picture, such ideas will soon be falsified no matter from which direction he decides to explore the Area.

The Western Area includes that part of the West Country included in the county of Gloucestershire; all Wiltshire north and west of Salisbury Plain; north-east Somerset from a line drawn from Burnham-on-Sea, on the coast of the Bristol Channel, to the Dorset boundary above Yeovil. In this Area Toc H Branches will be found firmly planted in a variety of 'soils'.

Entering the Area over the Cotswold Hills your first contact will be with Winchcombe, an ancient 'capital', and now the centre of a thriving agricultural area and a very strong contrast to Cheltenham, its nearest neighbour and world-famous as a spa. A few more miles on to Gloucester, cathedral city and bustling industrial centre, and you have an early sample of the surprising contrasts that go to make up this Area. Travel over the hills again to Stroud and you will find in this delightful wooded valley a busy industrial life concerned with the manufacture of everything from a piano to a pair of gloves. Yet, but four miles away, here is the village of Pitchcombe almost lost in the hills, where a Branch has flourished these twenty years in a community which numbers no more than two hundred all told.

Perhaps your interest is in railways, then Swindon District will be able to tell, and show you, all there is to be known about



KEY TO TOC H BRANCHES.

1. BATH DISTRICT: Bath, Twerton, Combe Down.
2. BRISTOL DISTRICT: Brislington, Clevedon, Henleaze, Horfield, Mark IX, Portishead, Shirehampton, Winterbourne, Knowle, Bristol University, St. George.
3. CHIPPENHAM DISTRICT: Atworth, Calne, Chippenham, Corsham, Hilmarton, Malmesbury.
4. GLOUCESTER DISTRICT: Cheltenham, Gloucester, Winchcombe, Newent.
5. STROUD DISTRICT: Cirencester, Pitchcombe, Stonehouse, Stroud, Tetbury.

them. There are few members of the six Branches here who are not 'inside' the works of what will always be known locally—despite the schemes of mice and men, as the Great Western Railway. To the south, Chippenham men will add to the story with details of the intricacies and mysteries of up-to-date signalling apparatus, and much else beside in the field of electrical equipment. Calne will want to speak of bacon-curing and sausages, Corsham of their underground harbour in the bowels of Box Hill, where it is said the good ship *H.M.S. Royal Arthur* rides at anchor.

Is your taste for history, architecture or legend? Then travel on, down the hill to Bath, and you will have your fill of the glories of the Roman Baths, the Abbey and the city's eighteenth century buildings. Then on once more, over the hills again, this time the Mendips, to Wells where the cathedral and much else will hold you longer in its grasp than you may have time to spare, for you will surely wish to make your pilgrimage to Glastonbury—rich in history and legend woven round the Abbey and the Holy Thorn. For those who prefer the romance of sterner times then travel north to Bristol, the industrial city of the west with its ten Toc H Branches and half-million population. Here you can trace the history of the industrial revolution, learn of Cabot or John Wesley, or visit the 'Llandoger Trow', the home of smugglers, press gangs and all those who once traded from the oldest port of old England.

Intentionally nothing has been said here of the life and work of the fifty Toc H Branches within this Area, whose thousand-odd members strive today to carry-on in the true spirit of those who have built up the rich traditions of the West Country.

R.D.S.

6. SWINDON DISTRICT: New Swindon, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Stratton St. Margaret, Wroughton, Wootton Bassett, Shrivenham.

7. VALE OF AVALON DISTRICT: Castle Cary, Compton Dundon, Coxley, Glastonbury, Somerton, Street, Wells.

8. WEST MENDIP DISTRICT: Milton, Weston-Super-Mare, Winscombe, Uphill, Burnham-on-Sea.

9. PEWSEY VALE (late WEST WILTS) DISTRICT: Devizes, Pewsey, Marlborough.

The Elder Brethren

BARRETT.—On November 8, Major FREDERICK WHITFIELD BARRETT, aged 74, a founder member of Wroughton Branch. Elected 30.9.'39.

BROUGH.—On November 19, CARLETON BROUGH, aged 63, a member of the R.H.H.I. Branch, Putney. Elected 3.12.'47.

BURNHAM.—On November 8, HENRY STANLEY BURNHAM, aged 62, a member of Godalming Branch. Elected 5.1.'27.

BURGAN.—On November 16, GILBERT BURGAN, aged 52, a member of Dawlish Branch. Elected 28.5.'40.

DALBY.—In October, the Rev. LEONARD B. DALBY, aged 74, a member of Plymouth Branch. Elected 14.2.'36.

ELLIOTT.—On November 14, JOSEPH GAVIN ELLIOTT, aged 25, a member of Axminster Branch. Elected 25.9.'46.

ENGLAND.—On September 26, WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER ENGLAND ('BILLY'), aged 59, a member of Ormesby Branch. Elected 1.3.'20.

FRANCE.—On November 4, ERK NEWALL FRANCE, aged 43, a member of Knottingley Branch. Elected 10.3.'43.

GILES.—On August 29, ALFRED G. GILES, aged 63, the Job-master of Llandrindod Wells Branch. Elected 8.1.'36.

HOPGOOD.—On November 21, WILLIAM M. HOPGOOD, aged 55, a member of the Ministry of Works group. Elected 17.3.'45.

HUSSIAN.—On November 15, EDWARD SABDAL HUSSIAN, a founder member of Ramsgate Branch. Elected 8.1.'30.

JEWELL.—On October 10, OSWELL JEWELL, aged 75, a founder member of Cheltenham Branch. Elected 1.7.'21.

RUCK.—On November 21, the Rev. Prebendary GEORGE RUCK, aged 72, Padre of Bath Branch. Elected 23.9.'30.

RUSSELL.—On October 27, WILFRED HOLME RUSSELL ('RUSS'), aged 63, a member of Sale Branch. Elected 5.1.'27.

SHIELDS.—On October 29, ARTHUR ERNEST RAYMOND SHIELDS, aged 46, formerly of Tower Hill Branch and Trinidad. Elected April, 1925.

STATON.—On November 21, REGINALD HARRY STATON, aged 55, for over 23 years a member of Toc H Staff. Elected 6.10.'20.

WEST.—On November 10, EDGAR LEWIS WEST, a member of Codsall No. 1 Branch. Elected 17.9.'39.

In Memoriam: Reg. Staton

Reg. died in hospital at Bedford on November 21, aged fifty-five. He was known as "Blazer" to his old friends and few men can have had so many friends in Toc H, for he became a member in 1920 and for close on thirty years had not spared himself in friendly service to the Family.

A keen Churchman in the parish of St. Matthew, Reg. was one of the pioneers of Toc H in Sheffield. In 1926 he was asked to give up his work as a silversmith and he never regretted his decision, for to him the whole-time service of Toc H was a privilege he valued highly and humbly. Until 1939 he served as an Area Secretary and Mark Pilot at various times at Red House, Leeds, in Hull and Sheffield, in Derbyshire and Hampshire.

From Southampton, where he had opened one of the first Services Clubs on the outbreak of war, he went to Northern France in February, 1940, and became Warden of Toc H, Mark I, B.E.F., in Lille. In May the troops moved across the frontier into Belgium and refugees, Belgian, French and



*Reg. Staton issuing
Red Cross parcels
'behind the wire'.*

British, took their place in the house. Reg. remained to look after them, many in pitiable plight, until he was ordered to leave. He and four other members of the Toc H team were caught up in the spearhead of the German thrust across France, while the British forces were retreating across Belgium to Dunkirk. For three-and-a-half years he was behind the wire in German prison-camps, first with British officers in

Bavaria and then in Upper Silesia on the Polish border with a mixed assembly of civilian internees.

Always busy, always friendly, always seeking out the lame dog—the man whose spirit was being broken by confinement and frustration, the young married man whose news from home had not come through or was bad, the youngster in rebellion against God and his fellow-men—Reg., in the words of a young Canadian, “was one of the nicest fellows I ever knew, and one of the best liked chaps we had in the camp”. He had one camp job as a member of the team responsible for the fair issue of Red Cross food parcels. It was not to be wondered at that under those crowded conditions greed, bitterness and jealousy were rife. The Camp Supplies Officer of those days said at Reg’s. funeral: “He was always the best one to pour oil on troubled waters”.



REG. STATON (left of back row) with members of Toc H in the Internment Camp, Ilag VIII, Tost, Upper Silesia, in 1943

His eyesight had been getting worse. It was both the need of an operation for cataract and his well-earned popularity that caused him to be selected by the British Camp Captain from among sixty men equally eligible to be one of the two repatriated from that camp to England.

From 1944, between eye-operations and bouts of incapacity brought on by heart-trouble, he refused to rest and gave of his best in Lincolnshire, Shropshire and elsewhere. His visits to members' homes were marked by his pranks with the children, his chaffing and jokes, his arguments whenever he thought he had spotted false ideas, and his gifts for the household larder. His giving was generous and often anonymous, seeking no return or thanks.

Taken ill during the Staff Conference in September last, he was carried to hospital in Northampton and later to Bedford. Of the Toc H members who visited him, those who had not known him before soon realised his capacity for friendship. The letters that poured in from men and women of all kinds in many places showed their affectionate regard for him. Though not allowed to write or move about, he busied himself over the cares of his fellow-patients. One of his last acts was to entrust a visitor with some money to ensure that the old man in the next bed to his should have the tobacco for which he longed.

Reg. never spared himself and was generous in all his ways. He was no intellectual but was granted the grace of humour and the faith of a simple soul, seeking out the best in man. He never wavered in allegiance to Our Lord. He trusted God and never doubted, and in that faith he died. Toc H has cause to be thankful.

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❖ 1950 is the twenty-fifth year since Tubby and Pat Leonard went on their world tour via Canada, New Zealand, Australia and India.

❖ The Silver Jubilee of Toc H in AUSTRALIA will be celebrated at the Australian Festival in Melbourne from March 18 to 27.

❖ BARKIS will be visiting Toc H in RHODESIA and SOUTH AFRICA in March and April.

❖ The FESTIVAL of Toc H in the United Kingdom will be held in London during a week-end in November, this year.

✚ At the invitation of the Central Executive, the Australian Executive are arranging for THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT to be started in Adelaide at 9 p.m. on December 11 and for a Vigil to be maintained there until 9 p.m. on December 12. *(This will be the twenty-first anniversary of the first observance of the World Chain, which was started in Perth, Western Australia.)*

✚ BRANCH MEMBERS in good standing for 1950 are those who, having reviewed and renewed their membership, have their names recorded on their Branch Members' Roll and are in possession of their Membership Cards for the year.

✚ AREA AND CENTRAL MEMBERS in good standing for 1950 are those who, having reviewed and renewed their membership, have assessed their own contributions, have paid their membership subscriptions and are in possession of their Membership Cards for the year.

✚ The Ministry of Pensions have asked Toc H to assist the WAR PENSIONS WELFARE SERVICE. Voluntary workers are wanted by War Pensions Committees to visit seriously disabled ex-Servicemen in their homes.

✚ LESLIE WOODGATE, Chorus Master, B.B.C., has succeeded "GREENO" as President of the LONDON TOC H MALE VOICE CHOIR.

✚ The late GRAHAME M. HAMILTON, Oxford and Bermondsey Club Committee, on the Toc H Staff, B.E.F., in 1940, and a member for twenty-six years, bequeathed to Toc H Incorporated a legacy of £1,000, free of duty.

✚ When you receive letters and parcels from overseas, please collect the stamps. When you receive letters and parcels from Great Britain with stamps of the value of 3d. and over, please collect them too. Then send them with your name and address to the Hon. Secretary of the TOC H STAMP APPEAL (Charles H. Wake, 142 St. Margaret's Road, Edgware, Middlesex). They will be sold for the benefit of the Family Purse of Toc H. Last year, £38 was received; this year the target is £100.

A Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

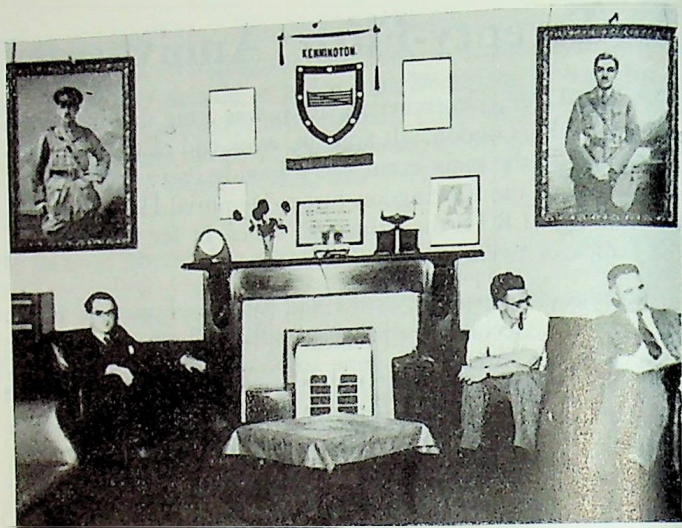
SATURDAY, December 13, 1924, was a big day in the life of Toc H, London. It was the week-end of the Birthday Festival, and the main event was a Family Party on the Saturday night in the Farringdon Street Memorial Hall, at which the Patron, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, lit for the first time the lamps of twenty-one new Branches.

But that afternoon the Prince had performed another service for Toc H. Accompanied by Sir Godfrey Thomas, his private secretary, the Prince had gone to Kennington to inaugurate the third Toc H House in South London—Mark XIII. He was received at 119 Kennington Park Road by the Bishop of Southwark (Dr. Cyril Garbett, now Archbishop of York), 'Tubby' and Peter Monie. In the hall were presented the donor of the house and the Mayor of Southwark.

The Prince was shown over the house by the Honorary Warden, T. D. T. Brocklehurst, and Padre C. W. Hutchinson. The donors of the rooms and the first Marksmen were then presented and the Prince conducted the Ceremony of Light.

"The Brothers' House", as Mark XIII is named, is a living memorial to two brothers, Richard and Augustus Dilberoglue, both of whom were killed in the Kaiser's war. Each room is furnished in memory of someone who died nobly and is identified with the name of the man whose example is thus commemorated. One room is named after a former Housekeeper, the late May Anstey.

To Mrs. Dilberoglue, the gift of the Brothers' House to Toc H was a very real personal sacrifice. Through an advertisement in the personal column of *The Times*, she asked for suggestions for the most suitable form of memorial to her sons, as she felt that an ordinary stone monument could not keep alive their memory in the way that they themselves would have wished. Of the seven hundred replies she received, the Toc H idea appealed to her the most and, when Tubby had shown her the existing Marks and she had learned at



The Lounge at the Brothers' House, showing the two new oil paintings by Leslie Lang.

first-hand of the service they were performing, nothing would satisfy her but that she should make it possible for another House to be opened. By selling her car and by the exercise of the greatest economy in her own personal expenditure over a number of years, Mrs. Dilberoglue not only found enough money to pay for the House but enough to provide for the necessary repairs and alterations.

Until age and infirmity made it no longer possible, this very gracious lady made what was to her a pilgrimage, twice a year, to the Brothers' House. On April 1 and September 15, the anniversaries of the deaths of her two boys, Gus and Dick, she travelled up from Eastbourne to London; and in the lounge of the Brothers' House she would be introduced to each new Marksman. Many scores of men who have lived at the Brothers' House remember with gratitude Mrs. Dilberoglue's visits and her kindly words. Mrs. Dilberoglue died in June, 1948; but her surviving son, Captain Dilberoglue, carries on the tradition. He has recently given to the House two new life-size portraits of his brothers, painted in oils by Mr. Leslie Lang.

From the beginning, the Brothers' House has been the home of the Kennington Branch of Toc H. The Branch's first Secretary was a young lad newly arrived from Somerset, Geoffrey Martin by name. [*Geoff is now the Overseas Secretary of Toc H.*] The first Chairman, Beresford Ingram ('B.I.' to the Branch), is now living in semi-retirement but the Branch still sees him from time to time. Jack Chipperton, the first 'Jobbie', has moved to the country and has become a Toc H Builder. 'Nib' Holder, a member of the first Executive, is now Branch Treasurer and is re-elected every year, his protests unavailing. 'Brock', the first Warden, then an ex-service student at Guy's Hospital, is now in practice in Johannesburg. He, and many more 'old boys', still correspond with the House and Branch.

What a human zoo is suggested by a glance down the Marksmen's roll! One ex-hosteller is now on the professional stage. Another is a Bishop. There are dentists, doctors and dishwashers; opticians by the dozen and engineers by the score; and there is little doubt that among them could be found a policeman, and perhaps a burglar or two. For twenty-five years the life of Toc H has been enriched—quietly, almost unknowingly—by a steady stream of new recruits, from all walks of life.

Not all who live in Toc H Marks become full members. But no man, with any sensitivity at all, can live in a Mark for any length of time without absorbing something of its atmosphere.

The man who knows most about the Brothers' House is undoubtedly William Lee Praed, Honorary Warden from 1926 until 1932, and has since kept very close contact with Kennington. During the

The Brothers' House Chapel.



greater part of 'Prado's' tenure the House was fortunate in having the Rev. Theodor Brochner as a Marksman—'Brock' was at that time South London Area Padre.

Throughout Hitler's war, the House remained open. Blasted sometimes and often shaken, it became a haven for servicemen as well as civilians, and maintained a proud record of service. Now, hiding its scars, it houses a community that is a true family of Toc H.

In December, 1949, the Brothers' House and the Kennington Branch celebrated their first twenty-five years, and special events were arranged for past and present Members and Marksmen. The Dilberoglue brothers are not forgotten; nor is the sacrifice of their mother who made a memorial into a living reality. It is upon the inspiration of lives such as these that Toc H securely builds all that it has and is. G.R.H.

Tubby Writes . . .

We are glad to share with readers the following extract from a letter received from the Founder Padre, who is at present on tour in Canada and the United States.

Concord, N.H.

St. Luke's Day '49.

MY DEAR FAMILY,

I've never failed so long to write to you! But this tremendous trip has kept us moving day after day—sometimes two Schools a day, with fifty miles between, and then return . . . Humphrey [Whitbread] has proved himself in every way a good companion . . . I can't write more tonight. I have to preach at Morning School at 8 a.m. tomorrow, and did the same this morning at Exeter School—a hundred miles from here. Groton tomorrow. New York on Friday morning starts with a summons from General Eisenhower at 10 a.m. and lunch with the whole team. God bless you, every one.

Always,

TUBBY.

Nineteen



Fifty-One

ALTHOUGH TOC H will be holding a Festival in London in 1950, and although many other events will be taking place this year, the magnitude and scope of the Festival of Britain, planned for the summer of 1951, demands that no time be lost in making preparations for its fitting celebration throughout the land.

The Festival of Britain, as its name implies, is to be nationwide. In 1951 the people of Britain themselves will be open to inspection to demonstrate our achievements, our way of life, our contribution to Western thought and action in the past, in the present and especially in the years ahead. The Festival of Britain is intended as a corporate act of national reassessment, and reaffirmation of faith in our future, in which every town and village is invited to join in its own appropriate way, and in which each individual citizen can share.

In London, in addition to the central Exhibition on the South Bank of the Thames and the Festival Pleasure Gardens at Battersea, there is to be a 'Live' Architectural Exhibition, a Festival of the Arts, an Exhibition of Science and decorations, flood-lighting, flowers, fireworks, pageantry, sport and entertainment, making for a year of fun, fantasy and colour.

Travelling exhibitions will travel round the country, visiting a number of industrial centres with a selective edition of the main exhibition on the South Bank. A converted aircraft carrier with a similar exhibition will also visit a number of ports which serve big population areas. Other centres, unvisited by these exhibitions, will be holding Festivals of the Arts, each with an arranged programme appropriate to its own background and amenities.

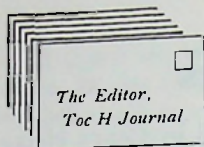
All this is but the nucleus around which the nation as a whole, locality by locality, can build its own programme as best befits each community. There is not a town or village in the land which cannot in some way or another, from the removal of an eyesore or the well-sited planting of some trees, to the creation of an arts-centre, the provision of a playing field, or the laying-out of a public garden, contribute to its own and the nation's enrichment. In all such undertakings it is hoped that each locality will draw as widely as possible on the voluntary help of private citizens and local associations, which contribute so much to the vitality of local life.

Toc H is one of the many voluntary bodies taking part and asked to seek membership of the local Festival of Britain Committees. There are some 350 local authorities already drawing up programmes and planning permanent improvements. Here are some more suggestions of plans in which the advice and help of the voluntary organisations are being sought: The tidying of bombed and war-damaged sites, their conversion into children's playgrounds, swimming-pools or attractive gardens, and their maintenance; Flower borders and window-boxes; New playing fields; Coaching and training schemes for sportsmen; Camping and touring; Hospitality and guides for visitors; The provision of seats and shelters on village greens, common land and near 'bus stops; The clearance of derelict or overgrown plots; The refurbishing of railway and other waiting-rooms; The renovation of mile-stones and sign-posts; New well-designed signs; The fixing of plaques upon historical buildings and sites; Drinking fountains for animals; Repair of public clocks and rehangings of church and town chimes; The recording or cataloguing of local folklore stories, dances and songs; Awards and bursaries in the fields of art and science; Local art exhibitions and music festivals; Competitions and displays of skill in ancient or native crafts.

So far as members of Toc H are concerned, news is already beginning to come through from some Areas and Districts of plans to help, and discussion would be welcomed in these pages of the varied ways in which Toc H members could respond, if they wish, to the words of the Lord Mayor of London: "This is a challenge then, not only to make a festival summer which is itself a thing of beauty and joy, but to make certain that it leaves behind some permanent marks on the life of our nation and that we shall all be that much better off when it is over."

Branch Briefs

- The Fifth of November was celebrated by CONEY HALL, with a sausage supper, fireworks and a huge bonfire.
- Last month, LLANDUDNO JUNCTION entertained 250 Old Folk to a 'high tea' and evening's entertainment.
- A bag-pipe selection by Pipe-Major J. Smith, M.M., was a high spot in the programme at DENNY's first Guestnight.
- This coming summer, CHICHESTER plan to revive a pre-war feature, an annual camp for some forty to fifty London boys.
- A new bus shelter is being built by members of NORTH WALSHAM in Yarmouth Road.
- The ninth edition of DAWLISH Minstrel Show took the road on November 17.
- To raise funds for their annual Christmas treat for children and Old Age Pensioners, PENZANCE members toured their town with a donkey and barrel-organ.
- The opening night, in November, of HEANOR (Derbyshire) Blind Club was voted a great success, over thirty attending.
- A rummage sale organised by HORNCASTLE raised the sum of £27 12s. 6d. for the Family Purse.
- The collection of timber, and delivery of the resulting logs, to the old folks of the village was recently undertaken by RIVERHEAD, Sevenoaks.
- Until its members can take over, the 'Non-Runners' Club for disabled men and women organised by BRIGHTON & HOVE now has a management committee of Toc H members and representatives of other societies.
- The provision and maintenance of a television set for a bed-ridden invalid is among the jobs undertaken by St. JOHN's, Sevenoaks.
- A 30 foot illuminated Christmas tree, erected in the town centre, formed part of a joint effort by LOUGHBOROUGH and the Rotary Club towards providing gifts for needy children.
- A row of alms-houses, empty through lack of funds to pay for repair, were recently rendered habitable by NEWBURY, with the assistance of the Women's Section Branch.



The Open Hustings

Letters from readers on a variety of subjects. On account of limited space some abridgement has been necessary, and contributors are asked to keep their letters brief and send them early in the month addressed to: The Editor, Toc H Journal, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

The Old House

DEAR EDITOR,

I read with particular interest the article entitled *The Pilgrim's Way* in the November issue of the JOURNAL. Barkis says "What now?" and wonders whether the old place and its associations mean as much to the modern man as to his older contemporaries.

I believe that to the younger member these things are no more than a tradition on which the movement is founded and that while the Upper Room can mean a great deal the rest of the Old House, having no memories for us, cannot hold the place in our hearts that it does in those of the older members.

It seems to me therefore that, as time goes by, fewer men will have the urge to make the pilgrimage to Poperinghe. But need we stop there? I offer two suggestions:—

(a) That the Old House be closed at some future date and its contents transplanted to a 'New House' somewhere in our own countryside with a replica of the Upper Room therein, but lest our older members feel this step too drastic—

(b) That the Old House remain open and that a house be opened in England, somewhere in the country, as a retreat and centre for pilgrimage with a replica of the Upper Room and its contents installed so that those who cannot go to Poperinghe may capture something of the spirit of the Old House, here in England.

I know the suggestion raises the question of finance but I feel confident that if a fund were opened the money would soon be forthcoming and that we could find no finer Toc H job on which to exercise our wits and ingenuity.

D. BROWN.

Walton-on-Thames.

DEAR EDITOR,

I feel you might be glad to have the reaction of a small group from the Paris Branch of the Women's Section which visited the Old House in October.

We were of the "between wars generation" to which Barclay Baron refers, and we were tremendously impressed by the Old House and its surroundings, so much so that we want to see it fulfilling an even bigger purpose. To us it seemed that there

was perhaps too much of a museum atmosphere clinging to Talbot House, and that it was not used nearly as much as it could be. We realise the financial difficulties involved, but we would like to see many more parties of young people, to whom the First War is history, lodged in the Old House, taken on visits to the Salient, and shown what that first war meant to their equivalent generation. I do not think any young person could remain unmoved amongst the graves of Tynecot.

The Old House has so much to offer that we would like to see its influence more widely spread. Our ideal would be to see a resident padre installed as Warden, and the House receiving people from the United Kingdom and the Continent throughout the year (not necessarily members of Toc H), seeking to quicken their spiritual life. Visits could last longer than the average weekend, and something on the lines of an Anglican 'Retreat' arranged.

It could also be put to good use as an international conference house receiving British and Continental delegates from international bodies whose aims are akin to those of Toc H.

The Old House was a vital force in the lives of hundreds of men when it was first founded. We felt that that vitality was still there, and only waiting to be used.

BERNICE LYNCH.
Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I personally do not believe that the Old House is losing its appeal for Toc H members, be they toothless mumblers or toothless babes. Surely, if it is losing its attraction as a point of pilgrimage for our Movement, there is something wrong with the spirit of Toc H, and something to be deplored among the older members, who, although it is time for many of us to take back seats, still have the job of keeping alive the spirit of brotherhood and gratitude for the sacrifices of the Elder Brethren. The Old House still witnesses humbly in the sight of all men, and I believe that it is now, and will remain for the generation to come, the Mecca of Toc H, comparable, within reason, with the Holy Cities of Arabia for the faithful Muslim.

I was never in Poperinghe, my service in the first war having been at sea, and in the second war, on shore in England, and with Toc H with the Forces in the Far East. But it is still my ambition to pilgrim to the Old House while I am still a Younger Brother.

It is up to all our membership to see that it remains, in B.B.'s words, "an immortal treasure", and that it never be allowed to become a pathetic "white elephant". May we ever continue to "build bravely" on the foundation of the Old House.

'SKIP.'

Leicester.

Greater Unity

DEAR EDITOR,

For most Thursdays in the last two years or so, I have attended an Anglo-German discussion group. Talked here and there with odd Germans of all classes, about all things under the sun. I have written M.P's, and written to newspapers when events here have been misrepresented.

Quite a lot of us inside the Family, and others have in our various ways tried to put to Germans, and others, the principles of the "Four Points of the Compass"! Perhaps many have been won over to 'Think Fairly'!

But, it is appalling to read of 20,000 men being thrown out of work at Salzgitter by dismantling. What will they think; What can they think? To be jobless in W. Germany, is to be desperate!

On the one hand we try to heal the breach of trust between nations. On the other hand the 'dead hand of officialdom', strikes at the very roots of friendship!

One cannot but admire Paget defending Manstein. One man's gesture worthy of English tradition!

In the meantime have any of your readers any suggestions? While we fight the seeds sown by National Socialism on the one hand, our own people fan the embers, some of us would fain smother.

Dismantling, be what it may politically, does in fact punish the unborn child. Above all we

need Western unity, as a prelude to greater unity in the whole world, and not least 'Peace', social, industrial and economic, and the end of the world strife.

ALBERT W. T. PEARSON.

B.A.O.R. Germany.

Branch Secretaries

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Lemon's letter in the September JOURNAL wanted writing, and it is to be hoped that it may have some effect on the people it refers to, the Branch Secretaries.

The blame for this state of affairs, though, should not be placed entirely on their shoulders, but at least a proportion of it should be laid at the door of those who elect them to office. Too often the Secretary is not sufficiently deliberately chosen. A really *good* Secretary is born and is hardly ever made, and unless he has the root of the matter in him it is a waste of time to appoint just anyone who will take the job on. Lemon will remember our secretary in Cairo years ago, John M... John was (and I hope he is still alive) a most charming fellow, very enthusiastic and keen. He rejuvenated Toc H in Cairo about 1929, and for some years he was the Secretary, and I was Chairman. If he reads this he will know that I write without bitterness or rancour when I say that I have never known a worse! He got us all on our toes doing jobs, and it was hard to find them in Cairo in those days, but as a Secretary... words fail me!

Branches should look round for the most suitable man they can find, in or outside Toc H, and then persuade him to take on the job. He must be methodical, tactful, a good organiser, good at keeping records, and should have a good memory. He should be prepared to do what Lemon says should be done (and what we all agree to be necessary) namely to see that men who move are preceded, or at any rate soon followed, by notification to the Toc H people in their new location. Moreover he should himself follow up *quickly* any notifications sent to him.

It is not good enough to take the first man who offers to be Secretary of the Branch. "A volunteer is worth two pressed men" *sometimes*. A volunteer Secretary may not be worth half of one.

H. N. BASSETT.

Buenos Aires.

Brief 'Business'

DEAR EDITOR,

In many Units it is frankly admitted that members drift into meetings with their minds maybe in a pleasantly apprehensive state, but by no means focussed and attuned to the issues ahead. Thus an unnecessarily drawn out 'business session' follows, which irritates all, gives would-be members an immediate impression that Toc H is entirely composed of aimless windbags, and makes sorely tried speakers firmly to resolve 'Never no more, etc.'

Now Yardley Branch live in a City which has the ambitious motto—'Forward': so we just had to do something about it. After patient endeavour we have hit on what we believe to be the solution, and this we send to you, dear Editor, in the hope that you may pass on the idea:

Our noble Secretary gets out a weekly 'Notes and News' sheet which is cyclostyled, and sent to all members and potential members. In his agenda the 'business' is very briefly set out, so that it's up to each to have his ideas formulated in complete readiness to play his part—thereby assisting enormously in the quick and efficient disposal of the big hogey. If there is a speaker a few notes about him and his subject give an added interest, and help the meeting to make an intelligent (we hope) contribution to the discussion. The personal touch is appreciated by all.

On the debit side we find that the additional outlay in having to put some of these sheets through the penny post is more than recouped in other ways.

Indirectly there is another valuable benefit to be gained from this arrangement—if business is unnecessarily wearisome we now have somebody upon whom to lay the blame! The Chairman has had every assistance, so *he* must carry the can.

JACK HODGE.

Yardley, Birmingham.

Headquarters, Areas and Houses of Toc H: January, 1950

Headquarters:

47 FRANCIS STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1. (VICTORIA 0354)

Administrator: H. W. HOWE.

Administrative Padres:

THE REV. H. LEGGATE, M.C. and THE REV. G. WILLIAMS.

General Secretary: R. R. CALKIN, O.B.E.

Chief Accountant: J. HARRISON.

Editorial Secretary: B. BARON, O.B.E. (in Africa), *Acting:* F. G. CHESWORTH.

Schools and Service Sec.: A. G. CHURCHER.

Bursar: K. A. ROGERS.

Overseas Secretary: G. R. R. MARTIN.

Houses Secretary: J. H. CLARK.

General Members' Sec.: D. E. PRESTON, M.B.E.

Architect: B. WRIGHT.

Bankers: BARCLAYS BANK, LTD., 78 Victoria St., S.W.1.

Auditors: MESSRS. PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.

Areas and Houses in the British Isles

Communications for DISTRICT, BRANCH AND GROUP SECRETARIES should be addressed c/o THE AREA SECRETARY, or other officer concerned.

A.S. = AREA SECRETARY.

A.P. = AREA PADRE.

H.A.C. = HON. AREA CORRESPONDENT.

NORTHERN AREA: A.S.: C. Richardson, 24 St. Mary's Place, Newcastle/Tyne,
2. House: Mark XVIII, Grainger Park Rd., Newcastle/Tyne, 4. (330041).

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A.S.: I. Fraser, Burbank House, Blencow, Nr. Penrith, Cumberland.
H.A.C.s: E. C. Hackett and J. W. Tolfree, Grosvenor House, Stramongate, Kendal, Westmorland. (672).

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MANCHESTER AREA: A.S.: C. Stevenson, Toc H. 27 Brazenrose St., Manchester.
2. (Blackfriars 5874). Mark Pilot: J. G. Froud (Salford). Houses: Mark IV, Upper Park Rd., Victoria Park, Manchester, 14. (Rusholme 2758).
Mark XIV, 1 Eccles Old Rd., Pendleton, Salford, 6. (Pendleton 2134).

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE DIVISION: D.S.: C. V. Young, Toc H Centre, Christ Church Rd., Sheffield, 3. (24532).

EAST YORKSHIRE AREA: A.S.: J. W. Maddock (as above). A.P.: Rev. S. G. Pickles, 10 Ash Grove, Hull. H.S.: A. E. Riley, 1 Broomfield Terrace, Leeds Rd., Tadcaster.

EAST MIDLANDS AREA: A.S.: G. R. Purdy. (Leicester 23304). House: Mark XI, 44 Princess Rd., Leicester. (224011). H.A.C.: H. E. G. Gee, The Home-
stead, Swithland Lane, Rothley, Leicester.

- LINCOLNSHIRE AREA:** *A.P.*: Rev. N. F. W. McPherson, 64 South Park, Lincoln. (10450). *H.A.C.*: Lt.-Col. J. Kennington, D.S.O., Church Farm, Riby, Nr. Grimsby.
- NOTTS & DERBY AREA:** *A.S.*: E. W. Saywell, 52 Cyprus Rd., Nottingham. *House*: Mark XXI, 228 Osmaston Rd., Derby. (263511).
- WEST MIDLANDS AREA:** *A.S.*: J. Callf, M.C., 85 Colmore Chambers, 3 Newhall St., Birmingham, 3. (Central 6732). *House*: Mark VI, 6 Wake Green Rd., Birmingham, 13. (South 0565).
- EAST ANGLIAN AREA** (Constable, Gogs and Norfolk Divisions): *A.S.*: P. Raban, The White House, Hempton Green, Fakenham, Norfolk. (2073). *A.P.*: Rev. J. F. L. Durham, 59 Tomline Rd., Felixstowe, Suffolk. (1114).
- BEDFORDSHIRE & HERTFORDSHIRE AREA:** *A.P. (part time)*: Rev. R. J. Davies, The Rectory, Ayot St. Peter, Welwyn, Herts. (305). *H.A.C.*: F. E. Rogers, 13 Longcroft Green, Welwyn Garden City. (Welwyn Garden 860). *Tot H Services Club* (Warden: C. A. Starbuck): Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks. (2363).
- OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY AREA:** *A.P.*: Rev. R. W. Tuesday, 52 Reading Rd., Wokingham, Berks. (621). *H.S.*: J. E. M. Stevenson, 27 Buxton Ave., Caversham, Reading. *Universities Correspondent (Oxford)*: F. Wyatt Joyce, Vanbrugh House, St. Michael's Street, Oxford.
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- SOUTH WESTERN AREA:** *A.S.*: M. B. Elson, St. Clare, Exwick, Exeter, Devon (3138). *A.P.*: Rev. S. R. Bolton.
- SOUTHERN AREA:** *A.S.*: A. S. Greenacre. *H.A.C.*: A. V. Bean, Talbot House Club for Seafaring Boys, Brunswick Square, Southampton. (2410). *House*: Mark V, 574 Winchester Rd., Bassett, Southampton. (681071).
- KENT AREA:** *A.P.*: Rev. J. I. Jones, 27 Woodbury Park Rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent. (20011). *H.A.C.*: D. Woolley, Rosemont, Victoria Cres., Ashford, Kent.
- SURREY AREA:** *A.P.*: Rev. J. I. Jones (as above). *H.A.C.*: R. W. Royston, Rowood, Ewell Downs Rd., Ewell, Surrey.
- SUSSEX AREA:** *A.P.*: Rev. J. I. Jones (as above). *H.A.C.*: K. Syms, 139 Mackie Ave., Patcham, Brighton, 6.
- LONDON:** *London Staff*: R. L. Wheatley, N. Hargreaves, 42 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3. (Royal 7660). *London Padre*: Rev. J. S. Must. 121 St. George's Sq., S.W.1. *Houses*: Mark I, 24 Pembridge Gdns., W.2. (Bay. 5400); Mark II, 123 St. George's Sq., S.W.1. (Vic. 0627); Mark III, Church Cres., S. Hackney, E.9. (Amherst 1949); Mark VII, 15 Fitzroy Sq., W.1. (Euston 2927); Mark XIII, The Brothers' House, 119 Kennington Park Rd., S.E.11. (Reliance 1005); Mark XX, 67 Upper Richmond Rd., Putney, S.W.15. (Vandyke 3976); Mark XXII, 95 Denmark Hill, S.E.5. (Rod. 5137).
- NORTHERN LONDON AREA:** *H.A.C.*: W. Heushaw, 2 The Walk, Potters Bar, Middlesex. (Potters Bar 2968). **SOUTHERN LONDON AREA:** *H.A.C.*: c/o 42 Trinity Sq., E.C.3. **SOUTH-EASTERN LONDON AREA:** *H.A.C.*: c/o 42 Trinity Sq., E.C.3. **EASTERN LONDON AREA:** *H.A.C.*: A. G. Waterfield, 3 Athelstane Grove, Bow, E.3. **WESTERN LONDON AREA:** *H.A.C.*: R. F. Hazell, 59 Effingham Rd., Surbiton, Surrey.

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 SOUTH WALES DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: R. Prothero, 11 Park Row Gardens, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. WEST WALES DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: G. Pascoe, St Nicholas, Job's Well Road, Johnstown, Carm. CLWYD AND CONWY DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: T. I. Jones, 30 Trellewyn Road, Rhyl. MONARFON DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: G. Lloyd, Bersham, Ala Rd., Pwllheli.
 MARCHES DIVISION: *H.D.C.*: T. Romanis, "Morvern", Lyth Hill Rd., Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury.
 SCOTLAND: *A.S.S.*: A. M. Johnston, M.B.E., J. H. M. Shaw, 172 Buchanan St., Glasgow, C.I. (Douglas 7786). *H.A.C.*: R. Fawcett. CENTRAL AND SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: D. J. Balfour, Larchbank, Kilmaurs, Kilmarnock. SOUTH EASTERN DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: J. Geddes, 61 Scott Street, Galashiels, Selkirkshire. NORTHERN DIVISION: *H.D.S.*: J. R. Stewart, 40 Malvina Place, Perth.
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Overseas

All communications should be addressed in the first instance to "The Secretary, Toc H", at the address concerned.

H.C. = *Honorary Commissioner.*

H.A.S. = *Hon. Area Secretary*

ARGENTINA: *H.C.*: E. P. Moxey, Moxey Savon Argentina, Reconquista, 336. Buenos Aires. *H.S.*: R. D. Rodgers, c/o Toc H Centre, Chacabuco 723, Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA: *H.Aust.C.*: Dudley Mathews, O.B.E. *H.Aust.S.*: R. J. L. Knight, Box 1202-K, G.P.O. Adelaide, South Australia. *Headquarters*: 40 Pirie St., Adelaide, South Australia. (C. 7577). NEW SOUTH WALES: *A.S.*: C. F. Reeve, Toc H, Daking House, Rawson Place, Sydney. QUEENSLAND: *A.S.*: H. Gascoigne, Toc H, Box 351-E, G.P.O., Brisbane. SOUTH AUSTRALIA: *A.P.*: Rev. K. G. Bloxham, Toc H, Box 1202-K, G.P.O., Adelaide. TASMANIA: *A.S.*: L. E. LeMaitre. *H.A.S.*: G. Cashmore, 156 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart. VICTORIA: *A.S.*: L. E. LeMaitre, Toc H, 476 Collins St., Melbourne, C.I. WESTERN AUSTRALIA: *H.S.*: D. Lukin, Toc H, Box E-202, G.P.O., Perth. (B. 5284).

CANADA: EASTERN CANADA REGION: *Hon. Reg. Administrator*: Prof. H. Wastencys. *H.A.S.*: Rev. F. H. Shaw. *House*: Mark II (Can.), 614 Huron St., Toronto, 5, Ont. (Kl. 8078). WINNIPEG AREA: *H.C.*: H. A. V. Green, K.C. *A.P.*: Rev. G. B. Davidson, 322 Maryland St., Winnipeg. *H.S.*: F. W. Watkins, Toc H, Box 675, Winnipeg. BRITISH COLUMBIA AREA: *H.C.*: H. M. Bruton. *H.S.*: J. Sherman, 666 Alexander St., Vancouver.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN: ALL INDIA COMMITTEE: *H.S.*: J. W. N. Baldock. *House*: Mark I (I). 2/2 Lansdowne Rd., Calcutta. LONE UNITS: *H.S.*: J. Rothwell, c/o Kores (India) Ltd., 98-99 Kiledar St., Clerk Rd., Bombay. SOUTHERN INDIA REGION: *H.S.*: J. S. Athanasius, 194 Poonamallee High Rd., Madras. *Assist. Reg. Sec.*: The Rev. Selva Raj, Toc H Rooms, Fort St. George, Madras. PAKISTAN REGION: *H.S.*: G. V. Secluna, c/o Buckwell & Co., Ltd., The Mall, Lahore, Pakistan.

NEW ZEALAND: *H.C.*: Maj.-Gen. Sir Frederick Bowerbank, K.B.E. *Dom. Sec.*: J. Davies, P.O. Box 321, Wellington, N.Z.

SOUTHERN AFRICA: *President*: Sir Herbert Stanley, G.C.M.G. *H.C.*: A. S. Paton. *Gen. Sec.*: R. P. T. Anderson, Box 3624, Johannesburg. (33-0551).
House: Mark I (S. Af.), 30 Saratoga Avenue, Johannesburg.
 CAPE EASTERN AREA: *H.A.S.*: H. Gurney, Box 44, Port Elizabeth.
 CAPE WESTERN AREA: *H.A.S.*: C. E. Lello, P.O. Box 7, Capetown.
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Lone Units Overseas

Communications to Overseas Secretary, 47 Francis St., London, S.W.1. regarding Lone Units in: Africa (North, East and West), Belgium, Burma, Ceylon, Far East, Mediterranean, Middle East, South America, West Indies.

Services Clubs Overseas

Hon. Commissioner for Services Overseas: Maj. Gen. Sir Colin Jardine, Bt., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., 47 Francis St., London, S.W.1.

B.A.O.R.: *Commissioner*: Rev. P. W. Webb, M.B.E., *Toc H/C.V.W.W.*, c/o H.Q., B.A.O.R., B.A.O.R. 1.

MIDDLE EAST: *Commissioner*: G. F. Coleman-Cross, *Toc H Headquarters*, M.E.L.F., 15.

MALTA: *Warden*: B. F. Miles, *Toc H*, 60 Tigne St., Sliema, Malta, G.C.

FAR EAST: *Hon. Warden*: C. Atkinson, Talbot House, Scotts Rd., Singapore.
Hon. Warden: V. Jackson, Talbot House, 50 Macdonnell Rd., Hong Kong.

The full list of Areas, Districts and Branches will be published with the Annual Report in April.

Members moving to another part of the country are urged to make speedy contact with the local Branch, whose address can be provided by the Area Secretary concerned, as shown above.

Those going abroad should get in touch, as soon as their journey is planned, with the Overseas Secretary, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

Toc H (Women's Section)

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
Vice-Presidents: The Viscountess Bledisloe, Mrs. N. K. Edwards,
Mrs. H. B. Ellison, The Lady Forster, G.B.E., The Viscountess Sandon.
Founder Pilot: Miss A. B. S. Macfie, A.R.R.C.
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Edmund Horne.
Accountant: Miss W. A. Adams.
General Secretary: Mrs. Twinch.
Headquarters: Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3. (Royal 5586).

Regions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland

EASTERN REGION.

Sec.: Miss E. M. Thomas, 37 Spring Hill, Sheffield, 10.

WEST LONDON & HOME COUNTIES REGION.

Sec.: Miss R. F. Collins, 45 Circus Road Mansions, London, N.W.8.

LONDON REGION.

Sec.: Miss P. W. Wolfe, 93 Clifton Hill, London, N.W.8.

MIDLANDS REGION.

Sec.: Miss E. Trevelyan Lee, 25 Holbrook Road, Leicester.

NORTHERN REGION.

Sec.: Miss M. R. Gwynne, 67 Angerton Gardens, Fenham, Newcastle.

Yorkshire Area: *Hon. Area Sec.:* Miss M. Norton, Highroyd, Honley,
Huddersfield.

NORTH WESTERN REGION AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Sec.: Miss R. Relf, M.B.E., 27 Old Hall Lane, Levenshulme, Manchester, 19.

SCOTLAND REGION.

Sec.: Miss E. M. Thomas, 37 Spring Hill, Sheffield, 10.

SOUTH EASTERN REGION.

Sec.: Miss M. Davis, 29 Oppidans Rd., London, N.W.3.

SOUTHERN REGION.

Sec.: Miss A. Welford, "Sunnycote", Lympstone, Nr. Exmouth, Devon.

WESTERN REGION.

Sec.: Miss T. M. Cowell, 1 Osborne Rd., Clifton, Bristol, 8.

Overseas

Overseas Sec.: c/o Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3. AUSTRALIA: *Dom. Sec.:* Miss G. Crow, 18 Storthes Street, Mt. Lawley, W. Australia. EASTERN CANADA: *Hon. Reg. Sec.:* Mrs. Davis, 381 Melrose Ave., Verdun, Quebec. BRITISH COLUMBIA: *Hon. Area Sec.:* Mrs. Petch, 3589 Osler Ave., Vancouver. NEW ZEALAND: *Hon. Dom. Sec.:* Mrs. McDell, 155 Arney Rd., Remuera, Auckland, N.Z. SOUTH AMERICA: *Hon. Area Sec.:* Mrs. J. Hunter, O.B.E., Arroyo 845, Buenos Aires, Argentina. SOUTHERN AFRICA: *Org. Secs.:* Miss M. Phillips and Miss I. Schnell. H.Q. *Sec.:* Mrs. Edgecumbe, P.O. Box 3624, Johannesburg. LONE UNITS OVERSEAS: c/o Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3.

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Broad Highway

THE WRITTEN WORD concerning Toc H, for the most part, maintains a discreet silence on the journeyings which membership entails. But the working member soon discovers that it is no longer possible to 'keep himself to himself' and inevitably becomes embarked on adventures which lead him to penetrate hinterlands previously unexplored. For many the new territory may be an adjacent street, but for some it lies in another continent.

Elsewhere in this issue mention is made of the singing of carols by Toc H members in the drawing-room of Sandringham House to their Majesties the King and Queen and many other members of the Royal family. At the same hour, on the outskirts of a large industrial centre, another party of members were also singing carols as they stood around an illuminated Christmas Tree with which they had transformed a desolate vacant site. On other pages, Barkis tells the story of his flight over a part of primeval Africa and Alec Churcher has set down impressions gathered during his recent tour of India.

The recording of these apparently disconnected incidents furnishes adequate testimony of the continued virility of our Movement. Toc H can still fire men's imagination and enthusiasm and send them travelling purposefully along a broad highway that may well lead some to cross any of the Seven Seas and others to take in their stride a desolate site—or a Royal home.

When old stagers in the Family sadly shake their heads and tell you that the 'old days' were best, pay little heed. There still exists opportunities for adventures galore, and the trail is more than likely to commence on our own doorstep.